

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Hajime AKUTSU, et al.

Application No.:

Filed:

For: IMAGE DATA RECORDING/
REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND
IMAGE DATA RECORDING/
REPRODUCING METHOD

Examiner:

Art Unit:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.97 and
§1.98

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The references cited on attached form PTO/SB/08A and PTO/SB/08B are being called to the attention of the Examiner. Copies of the references are enclosed. It is respectfully requested that the cited references be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and the references be made of record therein and appear among the "references cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

As provided for by 37 CFR 1.97(g) and (h), no inference should be made that the information and references cited are prior art merely because they are in this statement and no representation is being made that a search has been conducted or that this statement encompasses all the possible relevant information.

Applicant believes that no fee is required for submission of this statement. However, if a fee is required, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct such fee from the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 20-1430. Please deduct any additional fees from, or credit any overpayment to, the above-noted Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert C. Colwell".

Robert C. Colwell
Reg. No. 27,431

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP
Two Embarcadero Center, 8th Floor
San Francisco, California 94111-3834
Tel: 650-326-2400
Fax: 650-326-2422
RCC:eag
60025899 v1

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Page

1

of

Complete if Known

Application Number

Filing Date

First Named Inventor

AKUTSU, Hajime, et. al.

Art Unit

Examiner Name

Attorney Docket Number

16869N-092000US

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner	Cite No. ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
	AA	US-				
	AB	US-				
	AC	US-				
	AD	US-				
	AE	US-				
	AF	US-				
	AG	US-				
	AH	US-				
	AI	US-				
	AJ	US-				
	AK	US-				
	AL	US-				
	AM	US-				
	AN	US-				
	AO	US-				
	AP	US-				
	AQ	US-				
	AR	US-				
	AS	US-				
	AT	US-				

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁵
		Country Code ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	AU	JP	2002-101369		04-05-2002	Yokohama Consulting Group		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	AV	JP	2002-209131		07-26-2002	Nikon Corp		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	AW	JP	2003-116041		04-1802003			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	AX							<input type="checkbox"/>
	AY							<input type="checkbox"/>
	AZ							<input type="checkbox"/>
	BA							<input type="checkbox"/>
	BB							<input type="checkbox"/>

Examiner
SignatureDate
Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Kind Codes of U.S. Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.